

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0054] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0054] A suction means 20 for filling of an ejection liquid (an ink) is located in a home position (housing position), which is the non-ejection region (non-printing region) outside a printing region. A suction cap 21a for the black ink ink-jet head 14a and a suction cap 21b for the color ink ink-jet head 14b are located here, as shown in FIG.2, and gas-permeable filters 22a and 22b are attached with glue or other means to the front surfaces (upper surfaces) of the suction caps 21a and 21b. The gas-permeable filters 22a and 22b have the appropriate sizes (areas) for contact with the corresponding nozzle opening faces (head tip faces) 31a and 31b on the ink-jet heads 14a and 14b. Also, the gas-permeable filters 22a, 22b have the characteristic of being passed by air while being passed by liquid under a pressure below a certain level. Specifically, it has been confirmed experimentally that it is desirable for them to be made of fine polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) fibers and to have a mean pore diameter of 1 – 3 μm . Also, the thickness of the gas-permeable filters 22a and 22b is about 0.3 mm.